

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00
MCE-00 NRC-05 DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 NEA-11 /127 W
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O 181526Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1860
INFO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USNATO
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 11034

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CH, UR, US, PROP
SUBJECT: SOVIET ANTI-CHINESE PROPAGANDA UPSWING ON EVE
OF BRZEZINSKI VISIT TO PRC

REF: MOSCOW 7408

SUMMARY: EVE OF BRZEZINSKI VISIT TO PRC HAS WITNESSED
VERITABLE OUTPOURING OF PUBLIC SOVIET WARNINGS AGAINST
COLLUSION WITH CHINA AGAINST USSR, WITH THE ACCENT ON
DANGERS INHERENT IN MEETING PRC ARMS REQUESTS. MOST
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OF THIS SOVIET COMMENTARY HAS BEEN SUMMARIZED IN ENGLISH
LANGUAGE TASS SERVICE TO MAXIMIZE FOREIGN READERSHIP.
END SUMMARY.

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, SOVIET ANTI-CHINESE PRESS
COMMENTARY HAD CLIMBED BACK TO A HIGH LEVEL FOLLOWING
CHINESE NPC MEETING AND PRC REJECTION OF SUPREME SOVIET

"INITIATIVE", WITH CRITICISM OF PRC APPEARING ALMOST DAILY IN SOVIET CENTRAL PRESS. WE ARE STRUCK, HOWEVER, BY VERITABLE OUTPOURING ON ANTI-PRC COMMENTARY THAT HAS APPEARED MAY 17 AND 18 ON THE EVE OF PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP TO CHINA. COMMENTARY HAS LAMBASTED PRC ANTI-SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY, "MILITARISM", ALLEGED CHINESE INTERESTS IN PROVOKING WAR, AND THE DANGERS TO THE WEST IN ATTEMPTING (IN PRAVDA'S WORDS) "TO PROFIT FROM THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE PRC," PARTICULARLY THROUGH ARMS SUPPLIES. COMMENTARY INCLUDES MAIN EDITORIAL AND TASS ARTICLE CARRIED MAY 18 PRAVDA, LENGTHY MATVEYEV COMMENTARY "ARMS AND POLITICS" CARRIED IN MAY 17 EVENING IZVESTIYA, AND LONG-SIGNED ARTICLE IN NOVOYE VREMYA (NO. 20).

2. NOVOYE VREMYA ARTICLE FIRST DEFINES U.S. AS LEADING ARMS EXPORTER (AND IGNORES SOVIET UNION), FOCUSES ON FRANCE AND BRITAIN AS NUMBER TWO AND THREE ARMS EXPORTERS IN "CAPITALIST WORLD" BEFORE TAKING SWIPE AT PRC NEGOTIATIONS WITH UK ON HARRIER AIRCRAFT, WITH FRG DN HELICOPTERS, AND WITH FRANCE ON THE "HOT" ANTI-TANK MISSILE. IT CONTENTS THAT AN "AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH JAPANESE ON THE RECONSTRUCTION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE CHINESE WAR INDUSTRY" AND HOLDS THAT "ELECTRONIC COMPUTERS HAVE BEEN PURCHASED FROM THE U.S., AND THAT THE PENTAGON IS WORKING NOW TO MAKE IT CONFIDENTIAL

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EASIER FOR PEKING TO BUY AMERICAN ARMS. MEANWHILE, U.S. WAR MONOPOLIES CAN SATISFY A LARGE PART OF THE MAOISTS' REQUIREMENTS WITH DELIVERIES FROM THEIR SUBSIDIARIES ABROAD.

3. MATVEYEV COMMENTARY CHARGES THAT "SOME PEOPLE IN THE U.S. AND OTHER NATO COUNTRIES OBVIOUSLY BELIEVE THAT CHINESE NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAN BE 'PROGRAMMED' ONCE AND FOR ALL JUST IN ONE GEOGRAPHICAL DIRECTION. THESE GENTLEMEN RISK MEETING UNANTICIPATED RESULTS FOR THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. COMMENTARY DRAWS TOGETHER ALLEGATIONS ABOUT WESTERN AND JAPANESE MILITARY SALES TO CHINA, PRC AGGRESSION AND TERRITORIAL PRETENSIONS AGAINST ITS NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING INDIA, JAPAN, SRV AND THE SOVIET UNION, AND BRITISH AIR CHIEF CAMERON'S CHINA REMARKS ABOUT A "COMMON ENEMY." IN DOING THIS IT WARNS THE WEST AGAINST REPEATING PRE-WWII POLICY OF "EGGING ON THE MILITARY MACHINE OF GERMANY, JAPAN AND ITALY AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION."

4. MAY 17 ENGLISH LANGUAGE TASS COMMENTARY BY MIKHAIL YAKOVLEV IS ESPECIALLY STRIDENT IN ITS CRITICISM OF

PRC PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND SEARCH "FOR ALLIES IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES READY TO SUPPLY IT WITH MODERN WEAPONS AND THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN THE MILITARY FIELD." ARTICLE CITES PEKING'S LONG-TERM OBJECTIVE OF "HEGEMONY" IN ASIA AND EVENTUALLY THE WORLD AND CONCLUDES BY WARNING THAT "TO HELP BUILD UP CHINESE MILITARISM IS A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY TO SAY THE LEAST."

5. COMMENT: THIS SHARP UPSWING IN ANTI-PRC PROPAGANDA WITH ITS STRONG WARNING AGAINST WESTERN COLLUSION WITH THE PRC HAS CLEARLY BEEN TIMED FOR THE BRZEZINSKI VISIT. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS AS YET BEEN NO MENTION OF THE VISIT IN THE CENTRAL PRESS, THERE HAS BEEN CONFIDENTIAL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 MOSCOW 11034

CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN THE TRIP AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE
EXPRESSED IN PRIVATE BY SOVIETS TO EMBASSY OFFICIALS
(E.G., REPEATED QUESTIONS TO POLCOUNSELOR BY
YAKUBOVSKIY OF IMEMO DURING
SOCIAL FUNCTION FOR EXECUTIVE SEMINAR). MATLOCK

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